

REMARKS

Claims 1-45 are in the application. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

1. Supplemental Oath, and New Power of Attorney (to Applicant's New Undersigned Representative)

Applicants undersigned attorney is newly of record.

Hugh Craig, (i) inventor number one of two and (ii) proprietor of Polymeric Interconnect, a sole proprietorship, submits the attached (i) REVOCATION OF POWER OF ATTORNEY... revoking all prior powers given in this application, (ii) a POWER OF ATTORNEY.. appointing the undersigned as attorney of record, and (iii) a STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b) referencing, and attaching, an assignment from co-inventor John James Lowrie to said Polymeric Interconnect. Hugh Craig, doing business as Polymeric Interconnect, a sole proprietorship, is the holder of the entire right and interest in the invention, and in the application.

Please enter the change of identity, and of address, of Applicant's undersigned representative in the records of the PTO for this application, and please address all future communications to Applicant's undersigned representative. Thank you.

2. Status is Now as a Small Entity

The status of the present application is revised to be as a small entity. A verified declaration by the undersigned -- as agent to the Inventor Applicant Hugh Craig who is the holder of all right and interest in the invention and in the application -- to that effect is attached.

3. Replacement Abstract

An Abstract on a separate sheet is required.

A replacement Abstract on a separate sheet is attached.

4. Claim Objections

Claims 10-35 and 39-42 are objected to for being in improper dependent form. Claims 1-42 are objected to for informalities.

The claims are amended to correct informalities noted by the Examiner.

5. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph

Claims 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Claim 36 is amended to eliminate recitation of "thermally curable when the material of the solder bump is molten", which the Examiner found **not** to be supported by the specification.

6. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-9 and 36-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph.

Claims 1-9 and 36-38 are amended.

7. Added Claims

Added claim 43 may be compared with claim 1.

Added claim 44 may be compared with claim 16. Claim 45 is dependent upon claim 44.

8. Reference Art

Applicant has reviewed the art of reference, and finds that it neither teaches nor suggests Applicants' invention as claimed.

Applicants understand, and agree, that the claims, as now amended to overcome problems under 35 U.S.C. §112, may now be subject to further, substantive, examination.

9. A Co-Pending Patent Application

The Examiner is alerted to co-pending U.S. patent application serial number 09/242,388 to the selfsame inventor Hugh Craig who is one of the co-inventors of the present application (assigned to Examiner D. Hamlin, Art Unit 1751).

The claim 16 (as amended), and also the added claim 44, of the present application are each somewhat similar to the claim 1 of the related application. (Applicant would supply the Examiner with a copy of, or at least a copy of the claims of, this co-pending application but fears in so doing that this second set of claims might become confused with the claims of the instant application enclosed herewith, and thus believes that the Examiner may wish to retrieve his own copy.)

The related application concerns a composition of matter, usable as a conductive ink, that is self-catalyzing.

The present invention likewise concerns a composition of matter, usable as a conductive ink. In the present invention a thermosetting polymer is cross-linked by a cross-linking agent. The cross linking agent substantially so serves to cross-link the polymer only in the presence of heat and/or a catalyst. In one embodiment heat at soldering temperatures or above is effective to activate the cross-linking agent (claims 1 and 43). In another, second, embodiment the cross-linking agent is a fluxing agent effective to flux metals to produce metal salts that are catalytic to promote operation of the cross-linking agent. When solder is heating to melting, metals therein are exposed and are fluxed by the fluxing properties of this cross-linking agent, producing the metal salt that catalyzes the fluxing agent. (claims 16 and 44) It is this second embodiment that is most similar with the invention of the co-pending U.S. patent application serial number 09/242,388.

(NOTE: The inventive entity differs between applications, both of which applications were previously assigned to a common

assignee, and both of which applications are now assigned to common assignee Hugh Craig doing business as Polymeric Interconnect, a sole proprietorship. Inventorship of both applications is correct.)

10. Summary

The present amendment and remarks have overcome and discussed each of the bases for the rejections presented in the Office Action. No new subject matter has been introduced by the present amendment.

In consideration of the preceding amendment and accompanying remarks, the present application is deemed in condition for further, and substantive, examination. The timely action of the Examiner to that end is earnestly solicited.

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Applicant's undersigned attorney is at the Examiner's disposal should the Examiner wish to discuss any matter which might expedite prosecution of this case.

Sincerely yours,

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☐ Filed Under 37 CFR §1.34(a)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date written below.

February 3, 2003
Date

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